

Glossary

Species Status categories:

at-risk species—species of plants and animals that are Federal candidate species and those that the Service has not identified as candidate species, but are facing threat(s) and are potential candidates.

candidate species—species of fish, wildlife, and plants for which the Service has sufficient information on their biological status and threats to propose them as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act, but for which development of a proposed listing regulation is precluded by higher priority listing activities.

listed species—fish, wildlife, and plant species, including subspecies and distinct vertebrate populations, that are determined under the Endangered Species Act to be endangered or threatened.

endangered species—any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

threatened species—one that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future.

imperiled species—as used in this booklet, includes listed, candidate, and at-risk species.

Other useful terms:

certificate of inclusion—document used with a programmatic or “umbrella” Safe Harbor Agreement, Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances, or Habitat Conservation Plan certifying that property enrolled by an individual landowner is included within the scope of a programmatic enhancement of survival permit that authorizes incidental take of a species.

Endangered Species Act 1973, as amended (ESA)—Federal law that provides a program to conserve threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems on which they depend.

non-Federal property owner—a person, business, State or county agency, Tribe, organization, or other entity with a fee simple, leasehold, or other property interest, sufficient to carry out the proposed management actions subject to applicable State law, on lands not owned by the Federal Government.

programmatic agreement—a single “umbrella” agreement, often encompassing a region or State that can involve multiple property owners by means of certificates of inclusion. The permit holder, usually a State agency, enrolls other landowners.

take—as defined under the ESA means “. . . to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct” with respect to federally listed species.

incidental take—“take” of any federally listed species incidental to, but not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities; it may be authorized by permit.